

IO/II/40

John

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Raine & Co.

S.G.S.

When the train was running away and somehow in trying to apply the brakes was between two cars and when they wrecked he was crushed by a log and O.M. Hook the engineer jumped to safety and escaped with minor injuries although the logs had him pinned down, D.B. Kellison of Millpoint, the fireman jumped to safety and was unhurt save for cuts and bruises he received from landing in rocks and gravel.

Raine Town was a lively little lumber town it furnished employment to several men besides the ones living in the <sup>Company</sup> houses as they employed some 35 men not counting the skilled workers, foreman etc. Their payroll was \$2,500.00 each month this furnished a market for the near by farmers for their surplus commodities, namely eggs, dairy products, meat and truck crops.

About as fast as the lumber was sawed it was loaded on standard gauge cars shipped out on Warn Lumber Co. R.R. to the main line of the C&O and to the many lumber markets in the eastern part of the U.S. Raine Town is between 3 & 4 miles from Millpoint <sup>on</sup> the Richwood Road and on the head waters of Stamping Creek.

John Raine was a very influential man in for every thing that was for the betterment of the community in which he lived and worked, helped with all church work and made large contributions to the church.

They finished up this operation in 1913 shipped out all the lumber and machinery, thus ended one of Pocahontas County's larger lumber operations and was greatly missed when the payroll not only stopped but the market for the farmers commodities.

Raine Town today is merely 2 or 3 houses and that is all that is left of the once thriving town.

10/11/40

After this operation John Raine and his brother  
 the late Thomas Raine founded the Meadow River Lumber Company at Rain-  
 elle, W, Va. one of the largest hardwood operations in W, Va. John Raine  
 represented Greenbrier County for one term in the Legislature.

John Raine passed on August, 26/40 thus the passing of  
 one of the best citizens of the Greenbrier Valley.

Information

-----Luther Ray

Milpoint W, Va.

Owen H ook

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Joseph Sharp

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G.W, Auldridge

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Pocahontas Times

Marlinton "

Court Records

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10/2/40

Pocahontas County

Industry And Commerce

S.G. Smith, Hillsboro, W. Va

The Empire Wood Company.

In 1912 while the Tomb Lumber Company was operating, a kindling wood factory was ~~set up cut slabs~~ and all other rough lumber of no value for building purposes this was done with a rip saw and cut off saw, these slabs and boards were ripped in to narrow strips cut in short blocks taken by elevator up in a dry kiln that was 100ft. high there they were dried sent back down a slide to the press where they were pressed in to bundles tied with a string and stored ready for shipment.

George L Hyde was general manager for the kindling wood factory they had a rep. and salesman in New York City where it was sold for 10 cents per bundle.

They shipped from 8 to 10 cars a month . When the Tomb Lumber Company ceased to operate The Empire Wood Company <sup>lost</sup> their contract for the slabs and other waste lumber from the mill that they cut in to kindling so in 1914 they cleaned up and moved out thus passed out the first and last mill that produced nothing but kindling This was used in New York to start coal fires in furnaces and other coal burning stoves,

Information-----

Glenn McComb----Watoga W Va.

George McComb----Watoga W Va.

Dennis Dunn----Watoga W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project  
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